

Amendments to the Specification

The paragraph at page 1, lines 4-9, of the specification is amended as follows:

This application is a division of application Serial No. 09/704,210, filed November 1, 2000, now ~~pending~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,716,396, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/675,641, filed September 29, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/570,124, filed May 12, 2000, now abandoned, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/134,265, filed May 14, 1999.

The paragraph at page 49, lines 2-8, of the specification is amended as follows:

A method for removing a fluid substance from a closed collection device ~~comprising that~~ includes a cap and a fluid-holding vessel, where the method aids in venting air from the collection device when a surface of the cap is punctured by a fluid transfer device used to withdraw a fluid substance from the vessel. Venting is aided by incorporating a pause step between puncturing the cap surface and contacting the fluid substance held by the vessel with the fluid transfer device or by contacting the surface of the cap at a slower speed than the fluid transfer device enters the collection device after the cap surface has been punctured.